## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10  $/033~\mathrm{W}$ 

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4743

UNCLAS GENEVA 00559

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: ETEL, ITU

SUBJECT: ITU: INVITATION TO WASHINGTON PRAYER BREAKFAST OF ITU OFFICIAL.

- 1. TERREFE RAS-WORK, DIRECTOR, AFRICAN DIVISION ITU TECHNICAL COOPERATION DEPT., ETHIOPIAN BY NATIONALITY, RECEIVED IN MID-DECEMBER A MIMEOGRAPHED INVITATION TO ATTEND 23RD ANNUAL PRAYER BREAKFAST ON FEBRUARY 2, 1978 AT WASHINGTON HILTON HOTEL. INVITATION, WHICH INDICATES PRESIDENT AND MRS. CARTER WILL BE PRESENT, WAS SENT TO RAS-WORK BY CONGRESSMAN BUNKER OF WASHINGTON STATE.
- 2. RAS-WORK, A MIDDLE-LEVEL OFFICIAL, THOUGHT HE WAS ONE OF A NUMBER OF ITU FUNCTIONARIES BEING INVITED BUT SUBSEQUENT INQUIRIES INDICATE HE IS THE ONLY ONE WHO RECEIVED SUCH AN INVITATION. MYSTERY DEEPENED WHEN, ON JANUARY 12, HE RECEIVED AN ENGRAVED INVITATION TO THE PRAYER BREAKFAST TOGETHER WITH A SEPARATE CARD ADMITTING HIM TO THE FUNCTION. INVITATION WAS SENT TO HIS HOME ADDRESS RATHER THAN TO ITU.
- 3. RAS-WORK'S JOB SELDOM TAKES HIM TO WASHINGTON AND HE HAS NO RECOLLECTION OF EVER MEETING CONGRESSMAN BUNKER, EITHER IN THE U.S. OR IN ETHIOPIA. HE IS AT A COMPLETE LOSS AS TO WHY HE HAS BEEN INVITED BUT UNCLASSIFIED

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HE WOULD BE WILLING TO PAY FOR A FLIGHT TO WASHINGTON FOR THIS OCCASION IF IT WERE STRONGLY DESIRABLE OR NECESSARY THAT HE ATTEND.

4. HE ASKED IF MISSION COULD CLARIFY THIS MATTER AND WE ADVISED HIM WE WOULD SEEK FURTHER INFORMATION FROM WASHINGTON. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY CLARIFICATION

DEPT CAN PROVIDE. AS RESPONSE TO INVITATION NECESSARY BY JANUARY 20, RAS-WORK HAS ASKED THAT INQUIRY BE EXPEDITED. SORENSON

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## Message Attributes

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TAGS: ETEL, SZ, ITU

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